

## Message Text

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43

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 IO-10 L-03

NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSC-05 ERDE-00 NRC-05 /087 W  
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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3012

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO/RUFHMB/USDEL MBFR VIENNA 1309

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 4091

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR

SUBJECT: MBFR: OPTION III: NON-US ALLIED EQUIPMENT

REF: STATE 182851

1. REFTTEL, PARA 1C, REQUESTED UK CLARIFICATION OF THE MEANING OF THE WORDS "EXPLICIT LIMITATIONS" IN THE UK SENTENCE "EASTERN DEMANDS FOR EXPLICIT LIMITATIONS ON NON-US ALLIED TANKS SHOULD BE FIRMLY RESISTED." REF A ASKED IF THIS MEANT UK WOULD ACCEPT IMPLICIT LIMITATIONS, AND STATED WASHINGTON WISHED TO SEE REPORT OF UK CLARIFICATION AND ALLIED VIEWS BEFORE ACCEPTING THE UK SENTENCE.

2. WE NOTE THAT THE US IN PARA 44 OF THE "US VIEWS" PAPER STATED: "THE ALLIANCE SHOULD AVOID ANY COMMITMENT IN PHASE I TO EXPLICIT LIMITS ON NON-US ARMAMENTS." THE MC COMMENT (CMCM-96-75), PARA 13, REPEATED THE US RECOMMENDATION TO AVOID COMMITMENT IN PHASE I TO "EXPLICIT LIMITS" ON NON-US NATO ARMAMENTS, AND ENDORSED  
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THIS RECOMMENDATION. THUS, WE BELIEVE UK IS REFERRING TO "EXPLICIT LIMITATIONS" MAY ONLY BE PICKING UP THIS PHRASEOLOGY. IF THE US WERE NOW TO QUESTION WHAT THE UK MENAT BY "EXPLICIT LIMITATIONS", AND WHETHER THAT MEANT UK WOULD ACCEPT IMPLICIT

LIMITATIONS, THE OTHER ALLIES WOULD WONDER WHAT THE US MEANT WHEN IT PREVIOUSLY USED "EXPLICIT LIMITS", AND WHETHER THE US IS INTERESTED IN IMPLICIT LIMITATIONS (OTHER THAN MANPOWER NO-INCREASE COMMITMENTS).

3. WE BELIEVE, THEREFORE, THAT THE US SHOULD NOT RAISE THE QUESTION IN REFTEL, PARA 1 C, UNLESS WE ARE PREPARED TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS RAISED IN LAST SENTENCE OF PARA 2 ABOVE. IF WASHINGTON WISHES US TO DO SO, WE CAN RAISE THE QUESTION AT SPC MEETING THURSDAY, AUGUST 7.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE ON THIS POINT IN TIME FOR SPC MEETING AUGUST 7.  
STREATOR

SECRET

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## Message Attributes

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